

Queer Babies

Interesting Researches Into Habits and Manners of the Baby Crab. ♦ the Baby Stalk-Eye Fish, the Baby Rhinoceros and ♦ a Score of Other Strange Babies to Throw More Light on the Care of Our Own Babies

The Baby Ribbon-Fish Remarkable for the Length of Certain of Its Fin Rays.



A Baby Chimpanzee That Is Much More Human Than an Adult Ape.

In the "megalopa" stage there is a much nearer approach to normal crab form, with large, stalked eyes and nippers to the front pair of legs; but the long, slender tail sticks out behind.

All this time the baby crab swims through the upper waters instead of crawling on the bottom. When the last larval skin is thrown off an opaque shell takes its place and the miniature crab sinks to the bottom and tucks its flattened tail tightly against the under side of its body.

There are many fish which are only known to science in baby form. The young have been found when newly spawned on the surface of the ocean, but the adults, living in the depths, have never been caught or, at least, identified.

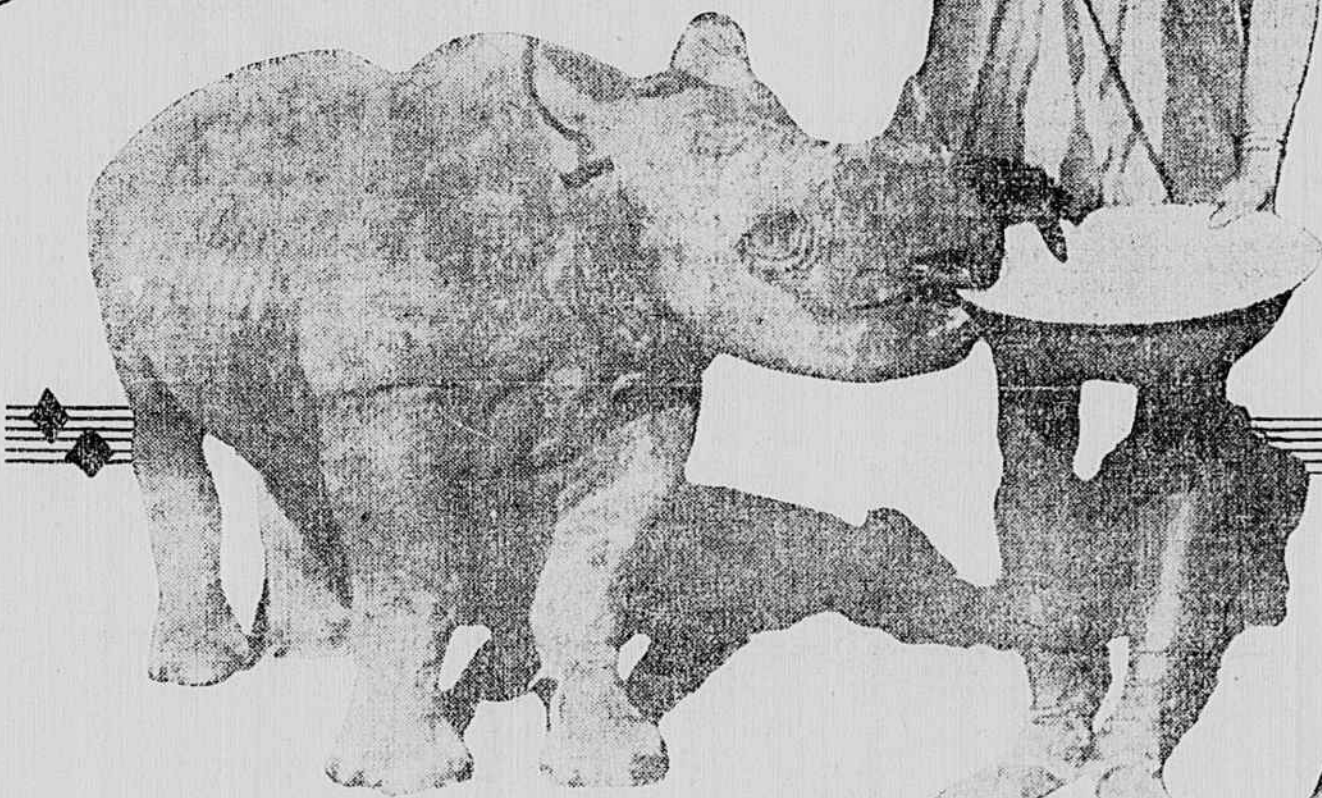
The baby stalk-eye is one of the most extraordinary of these fish. It is unique among vertebrate animals in the form of its eyes, which are borne on long, flexible and retractile stalks, recalling those of the snail.

This is really a most extraordinary fact, for these eyes must be of tremendous importance, though they may achieve no more than distinguishing the pale, phosphorescent light of their surroundings. The stalk-eye habitually lives in the great depths, where no sunlight penetrates.

It seems strange that the eyes should be constantly exposed to such a risk of being bitten off. Possibly they are extremely sensitive, so that the vibrations in the water set up by an approaching enemy may serve to give warning in time to permit of their being instantly withdrawn to the level of the head, or at least far enough in that direction to be out of harm's way.

The stalk-eye comes very near realizing the extraordinary forms of life which have been imagined by the scientific novelist, H. G. Wells, on the planet Mars.

The ribbon fish is another instance where the infant differs greatly from the adult form. The infant has slender fin rays, which are enormous

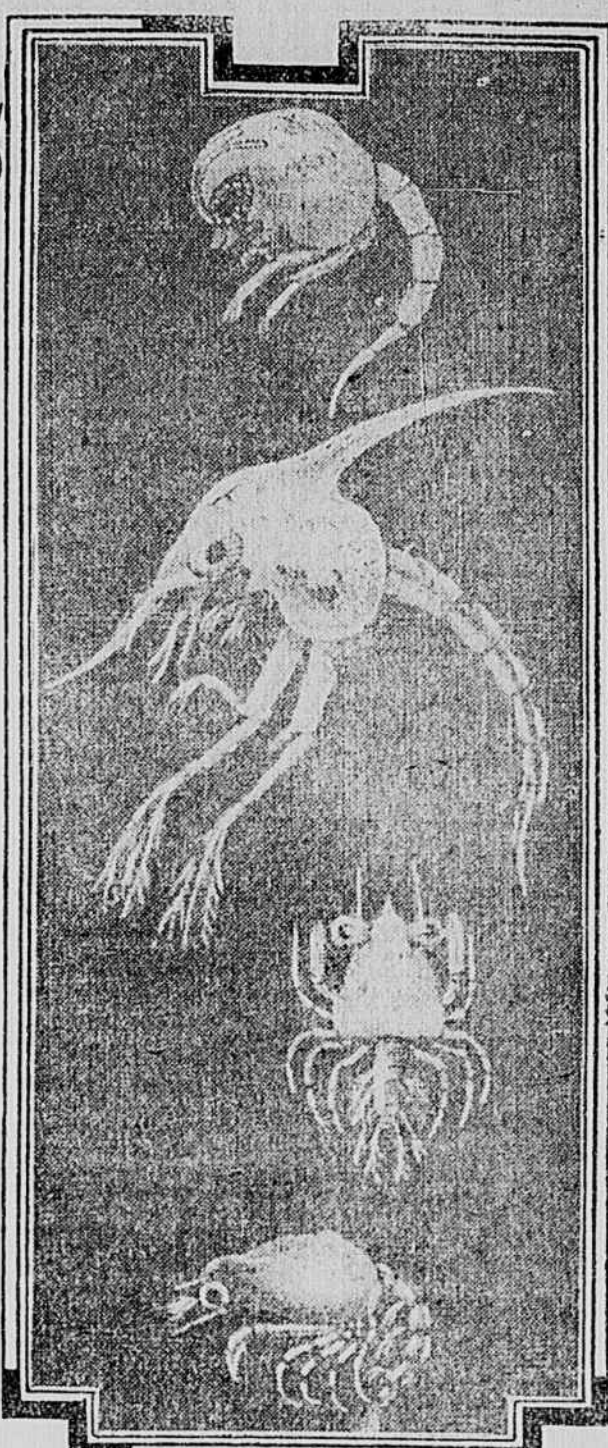


The Baby Rhinoceros Is as Tame as a Kitten.

mously long, many times that of its body, while in the adult fish the rays are very small. The infant fish is short and stout, while the adult is remarkably thin and elongated.

The adult ribbon fish is occasionally cast up on the shores of Scotland. It is excessively elongated and flattened from side to side, while the fins are its last conspicuous feature.

In the great ocean depths there are no disturbing currents, and hence the possibility of using long, thread-like fin rays such as distinguish the young ribbon fish. But what purpose do they serve? Judging from what obtains among other and adult fishes of these regions they serve as organs



Four Very Different Stages of the Shore Crab's Growth.

of touch, and the curious arrow-head tabs of skin which run up these rays probably give increased sensitiveness either to touch or temperature.

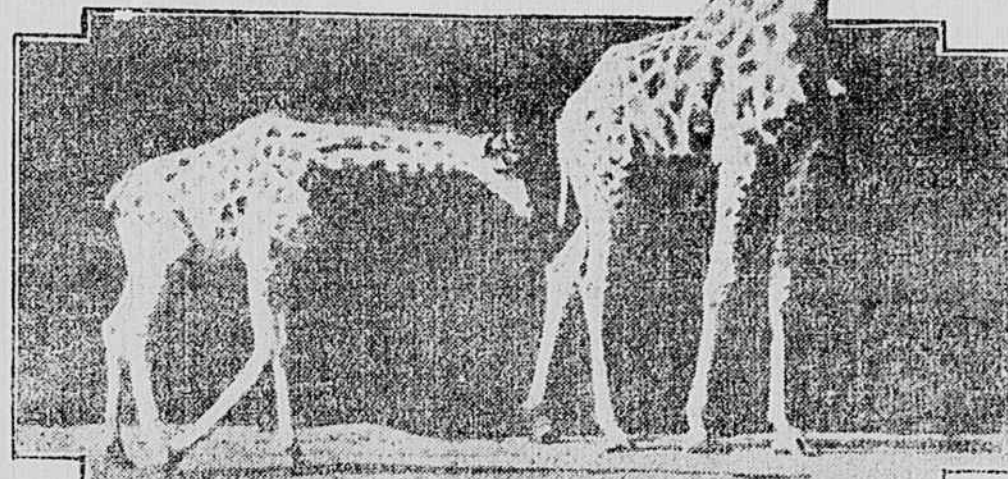
In some of the deep sea fish some of the rays or supporting rods of the breast fins can be worked up and down, forwards, sideways and backwards as the fish moves about seeking at once both food and direction. They remind us of the way the blind man guides himself by the tapping of his stick.

A very curious fact has been ascertained by watching a baby of that very rare family, the giraffes. It has been found that just as the baby giraffe reaches its adult form and leaves its mother's care there is a much more rapid development of its neck than of any other part of its body.

This appears to prove clearly that the neck was evolved in order to secure food obtainable only from high places.

The baby chimpanzee will probably shed more light on the origin of man than any other animal. It has been found that in infancy the chimpanzee is far closer to man than in adult life; that it is remarkably intelligent, and can learn many things which were thought possible only to a human child. The baby chimpanzee can be taught to read and write simple words.

The rhinoceros, the wildest and most savage of all animals, is as tame as a kitten when young, but that is the most that can be said of it. It has no intelligence worth mentioning.



The Baby Giraffe Just as It Attains Its Enormous Neck Growth.

A \$50,000 Hair Cut of 2,000 Years Ago



The Beautiful Statue of a Greek Youth of 2,300 Years Ago, Just Unearthed at Sutri, Near Rome, and Sold for \$50,000.

A REMARKABLY beautiful ancient Greek statue has been unearthed at Sutri, near Rome, and has been purchased for \$50,000 by the government for the great National Museum founded some years ago in the Baths of Diocletian. This museum is devoted to works of the classic period found in and around Rome.

It was discovered by a peasant while digging in the fields. Evidently it was an art treasure that had been brought from Greece by the ancient Romans and had lain buried for many centuries.

It represents a handsome Athenian youth, or ephebus, who has just had his hair cut and is looking at himself with interest in a mirror.

The statue has been described joyously as a hair cut that cost \$50,000.

An ephebus at Athens was a youth just turned sixteen. The completion of the boy's sixteenth year was the occasion of a festival at which the ephebus made a drink-offering to Hercules and entertained his friends with wine.

His hair, which had been worn long up to that time, was cut and the locks dedicated to Apollo. For the two following years the ephebi were mainly employed in gymnastic exercises.

Then they came up for an examination intended to test the purity of their descent and their physical capacity. The ephebi were next entered on the list of their tribe, as-

sembled in the theatre armed with spear and shield, and taken to the sanctuary of Agrauros, at the foot of the citadel, where they bound themselves by a solemn oath to the service of their country.

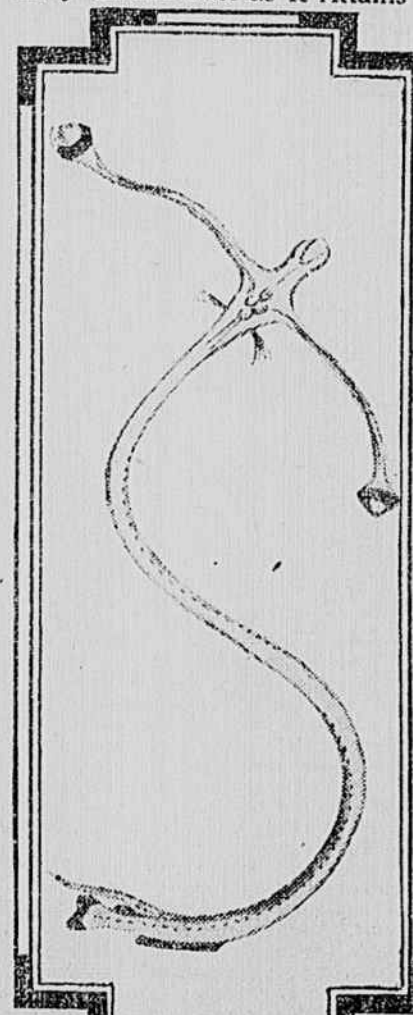
For the two following years they served as guards on the frontier, and after that they were admitted to full citizenship.

The statue is of bronze, two feet seven inches in height, and dates from about the fourth century B. C.

In the attitude of the figure it bears a resemblance to the famous Lycian Apollo of Praxiteles. Its artistic character also suggests that beautiful statue. Signor Pariben, director of the National Museum, has decided, however, that it does not represent Apollo but simply an ephebus. It belongs in the same class with the most beautiful works of Greek sculpture that have been discovered.

The youth raises his hand to his head with a very natural attitude, as if conscious that there is something very unusual about his hair. The attitude is a graceful one and rather feminine in character. A youth who had been brought up with long hair up to his sixteenth year would, of course, have to follow feminine methods of keeping it in order.

The mirror has been partly broken off, but the nature of the object can easily be discerned. Otherwise the statue is in almost perfect condition.



The Stalk-Eye, a Baby Fish with Its Eyes on the Ends of Long Arms

How a Talented Pet Cat Will Help Govern France

M. POINCARÉ, the newly elected president of the French Republic, is a cat-lover. So were, and are, other celebrated Frenchmen—among them Victor Hugo, Théophile Gautier and Pierre Loti, whose feline pets are immortalized in their writings.

President Poincaré has a cat which he esteems so highly and of which he is so fond, that right at the moment of receiving the greatest and most profitable honor in the gift of the French nation, he pauses to write its praises. Manifestly a cat of such quality will not be without a paw in the new administration. M. Poincaré writes:

"This cat is gifted with a strange and complex personality. Voluptuous and epicurean, treacherous and cunning, wayward and ferocious, authoritative to the point of tyranny, it has, you observe, nothing but faults, but these faults, which in any other cat would be absolutely insupportable, become in the case of this cat, by the manner in which he uses them, qualities of the highest value.

"He has a perfect sense of humor, and knows exactly the value of a well-timed joke. His tact is wonderful; he can end a difficult situation in the most graceful and natural manner. I have never seen this cat

embarrassed, nor guilty of a 'faux pas.' With astonishing celerity he will choose between two solutions of a question, not only the better from his own point of view as satisfying his interests, but the more elegant and agreeable, and the one most likely to draw approval upon himself.

"Flattery is another thing this cat excels in; not that obvious and direct variety which embarrasses and offends sensitive people, but that variety which caresses exquisitely one's amour propre. He never disobeys his master unless the latter is not present, or unless he is engaged in some absorbing task. Then he will go and sit where he has been told not to, near the radiator. Discovered, he smiles gently and runs over to me, looking at me as though to say, 'Oh, yes; I was there right enough, but merely for the instant. I wished only to warm my feet, you understand, because it is a little cold this evening. But I didn't stay there—the best proof of which is that I am here now. But why do you look at me like that? Anger, you know, is a capital fault. Come, let us be good friends and enjoy ourselves!'